ON-LINE SIGNATURE VERIFICATION OF COLLECTIBLES <u>Abstract of the Disclosure</u>

A verification system for authenticating a suspected signature on a collectible object by scanning the suspected signature into an originating computer, electronically transmitting the image to a central computer where the suspected signature is compared with a set of authentic reference signatures stored there based on the user's input as to the shape of the object on which the suspected signature is inscribed. The central computer transmits to the originating computer an authentication of the suspected signature or an indication that the suspected signature can not be authenticated. Optionally, a printer can print a certificate of authentication bearing one of two identical serialized holograms and a second identical serialized hologram for attachment to the collectible.